

ISSUE #21 | OCTOBER 2019

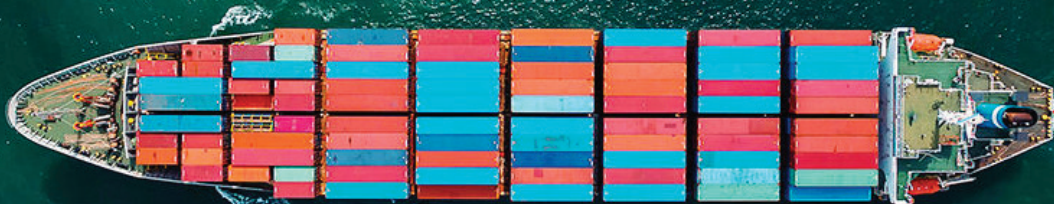
TRADECOM II NEWS

INFORMATION BULLETIN OF TRADECOM II PROGRAMME



Paula HIPPOLYTE BAUWENS

TradeCom II Programme - Regional Trade Expert



AID TO TRADE: SUPPORTING TRADE IN ACP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THROUGH TARGETED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING

PAGE 6

ZIMBABWE

TARGETED SUPPORT FOR STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY AND COMPETITIVENESS OF SMALL-SCALE HORTICULTURE FARMERS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NICHE EXPORT PRODUCTS UNDER THE EPA

PAGE 7

CROS, ARSO AND PIFS

TARGETED ASSISTANCE TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL TRADE-RELATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH INTRAACP PARTNERSHIPS

PAGE 8

SEYCHELLES

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY TO IMPROVE TRADE-RELATED SPS CONFORMITY AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COMPETITIVE FISHERIES EXPORT IN SEYCHELLES

PAGE 10

COMOROS

ACCESSION DES COMORES À L'OMC ET MISE EN ŒUVRE DE L'APE REGIONAL

AID TO TRADE: SUPPORTING TRADE IN ACP DEVELOPING COUNTRIES THROUGH TARGETED TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CAPACITY BUILDING



Paula HIPPOLYTE BAUWENS

TradeCom II Programme - Regional Trade Expert

The “trade-not-aid” strategy was heralded by a number of developing countries coming out of the experience of decades of development aid that they felt neither eradicated poverty nor led to economic growth. They postulated that a greater focus on supporting trade, rather than creating dependence on external development aid, would lead to a more sustained creation of wealth and prosperity for all. Many were founding members of the World Trade Organization, formerly General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), firm believers that a regulated and disciplined world trading system would lead them to the grail of economic development. Of course, overseas development aid was still welcome but a regulated trading system with the ability to sanction unlawful trading behavior, and provide adequate attention to the needs of its developing Members would be a panacea, thus helping the invisible hand in the global economy.

However, high tariffs and subsidized primary and secondary sectors in developed countries left many developing countries bereft, still seeking for elusive economic growth, stymied by international stand-offs and challenges, as only the more financially able (sometimes perseverant) of these could actually launch dispute settlement cases at the WTO... and win! Others clung to the Enabling Clause that allowed some form of concession for economically weaker or more vulnerable developing countries in the form of grace periods or other “preferences”, but whose scope of implementation remains limited.

The Development Round that commenced in 2001 in Doha gave hope to developing countries that they would finally have their round of negotiations completely, well, almost, dedicated to their issues, challenges and tailor-made trade solutions. However, to date, this Round cannot be concluded and is tapering off into limited gains in trade facilitation or fisheries, to name the few. What of the rest of the major issues of concern to most developing countries’ trade, such as agriculture, non-agricultural market access, special and differential treatment for especially vulnerable categories of Members?

It was during this Round of negotiations that developing countries saw the advent of Aid-For-Trade, in 2005, in Hong Kong.

The EU-ACP TradeComII Programme uses trade support as an encouragement to ACP countries to trade. As such, Aid-for-Trade has evolved over time to take into account the multiplier effect that trade assistance can have when external assistance is used to reinforce the beneficiary country’s self-

identified needs, based on its own development trajectory, and targeted to clearly identified and verifiable results/ outputs, based on pre- and self-determined strategies, with a clear intention to follow up implementation and ensure sustainability of the actions following foreign intervention.

This is the approach that the TradeComII Programme has pursued so that its technical assistance can have a lasting and sustainable impact within ACP countries.

TRADECOM II

AID TO TRADE, WITH A MEANING

Aid to trade has been championed by the EU-funded ACP-managed TradeComII Programme, that seeks to boost African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) trade integration and development through a demand-driven approach. At an institutional level, the role of TradeCom II is to complement EU-funded actions in ACP countries or regions through the principle of subsidiarity. This is done through the provision of funds dedicated to trade promotion, and in coordination with other trade-related programmes running concurrently at respective levels in the country and region. At a practical level, TradeComII is managed through a decentralized procedure that allows the Programme Management Unit (PMU) the freedom to receive requests from ACP countries (demand-driven specificity) and to translate these into Terms of Reference for full-fledged trade-related programmes and projects for implementation. The funds are fully managed by the PMU’.

The strength of the TradeComII Programme and approach is the respect of ACP national and regional economic contexts and needs as expressed by the beneficiary, and the promotion of intra-ACP complementarities through:

- 🌐 Promotion of the exchange of best practices among ACP countries and regional economic communities, including through the knowledge sharing tool;
- 🌐 The use of regional and international expertise, both ACP and expatriate with a strong ACP background, to work alongside these beneficiaries and stakeholders, to respond to their needs in self-determined areas.
- 🌐 Proximity and accompaniment are key to the internalization and appropriation of trade-related assistance provided to ACP countries.



For effective impact and positive outcomes on the ground, the procedures for procurement must be reduced to a minimum so as to increase the amount of time spent by the experts in the field with the beneficiary, while strengthening the oversight of the work to ensure that the needs are being met in a timely and adequate manner. This requires a balance between the need to account for funds spent (ensure that administrative and procedural requirements are met) and ensuring high level technical and sustainable outputs. Of course, the tariff and non-tariff barriers in external markets will still exist and sometimes exert disproportional pressure on ACP's ability to trade, however TradeComII's approach ensures that the ACP countries are strengthened in their ability to trade and assists with seeking for other market opportunities, and exploiting already available opportunities such as in regional integration settings.

Following tried and tested guidelines TradeComII has realized a number of technical assistance and capacity building (TACB) programmes across ACP countries over the years, with tangible results. ACP-origin and international experts who have relevant experience are selected to create and support enabling environments, inter alia, through the development of national technical capacities in the extensive trade and related fields that are of relevance to the economic development of the requesting country. Capacity building remains central to acquiring skills that are available

internationally to build and assess local understanding of the issue and its importance/relevance for trade.

The focus of the trade-related technical assistance and capacity building that TradeComII has provided to ACP countries under its first Programme Estimate, can be divided into five focal areas:

-  **Building trade capacities of national and regional institutions**
-  **Building capacity for trade negotiation and agreement implementation**
-  **Strengthening customs/trade facilitation systems**
-  **Strengthening private sector competitiveness**
-  **Enhancing ACP ability to take advantage of market access opportunities**

BUILDING TRADE CAPACITIES OF NATIONAL AND REGIONAL TRADE INSTITUTIONS (POLICY AND PRACTICE)

The purpose of building capacity in national and regional administrations is to provide them an increased understanding of trade, an increased capacity to formulate suitable trade policies, and to be able to mainstream trade and trade policy into the global economic positioning of ACP countries.

This includes focusing on developing new and relevant, and optimizing existing trade policy and instruments for increased market access.

TradeComII has provided expertise to ACP national and regional trade institutions, in a number of areas: understanding specific trade issues and agreements (WTO, TFA, EPA), customs administration, laboratory assessments and capacity building, providing technical needs assessments, assistance with formulating and implementing trade policies, project cycle management, trade and enhancing the regional integration agenda (theory and practice), trade and standards. This is also accomplished through the preparation of policy briefs (sectoral) to be able to feed into negotiations led by national or regional economic communities.

BUILDING CAPACITY FOR TRADE NEGOTIATION AND AGREEMENT IMPLEMENTATION

Capacity building for the negotiations of specific trade agreements has been a recurrent need expressed by ACP countries because of the level of technicality of the legal requirements and the plethora of issues that must be dealt with before agreement implementation. The aim is to support ACP countries to participate more effectively in trade negotiations and to implement the trade agreements to their benefit.

With respect to the negotiation of agreements, TradeComII technical assistance supported the accession process (EPA and WTO) of ACP countries. Support has also been provided to develop and strengthen officials' understanding of trade agreements and negotiations from a developing country or ACP perspective, such as developing an ACP perspective on public stockholding for food security purposes at the WTO.

With respect to the implementation of trade agreements, the needs expressed by beneficiaries have been greater than with respect to the negotiation of these. Expertise was therefore provided to assist with enhancing the implementation of EPAs in ACP regions as well as with implementing other FTAs and the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement (TFA).

One example of TradeCom II support with respect to the implementation of trade agreements, was to enhance the capacity of the EPA Implementation Unit of the CARIFORUM Directorate to implement the CARIFORUM-EU EPA. This was done through the enhancement of the legal and regulatory framework and support to monitor the effective implementation of the EPA. Experts provided support to:

- 🌐 Transpose HS 2002 codes to HS 2017 while flagging issues that may arise for CARIFORUM Member States during the transposition
- 🌐 Draft model bills to implement the CARIFORUM liberalisation commitments (in the following areas: Temporary Entry and Stay of EU Services Providers; Professional Services; International Maritime Transport Services; and Telecommunications – Regulatory Authority and Interconnection and Access to Facilities) and develop guides to their implementation.
- 🌐 Draft and finalize a Mutual Recognition Agreement for Architects including assistance with transposition into national legal frameworks.
- 🌐 Assist with monitoring (design of monitoring instruments) the implementation of the EPA and gathering of data to provide to the WTO in its implementation

Some countries required support to establish legal assistance frameworks to be able to deal with trade disputes, anti-dumping, compensatory measures, safeguards, understanding the SDT provisions of many negotiations, such as in Services domestic regulations, provision of working matrices on specific dossiers such as WTO fisheries subsidies negotiations, trade distorting domestic support, DS PSH and cotton, legal assessments of negotiating proposals, understanding trade remedies, anti-dumping proposals; SCM, ROO, Services. In some cases, fiscal and legislative reports/documents were required to be developed prior to the implementation of a trade agreement, and TradeComII provided expertise to assist with drafting these.

SUPPORT TO STRENGTHENING CUSTOMS / TRADE FACILITATION SYSTEMS

Functioning customs systems are key to improving trade performance in ACP countries. These, however, manifest a number of bottlenecks and other challenges that are at the root of reduced trade performance and efficiency at the border.

Technical assistance has focused on capacity building for effective trade facilitation and support for the development of trade facilitation instruments, such as the development of a single administrative document and related single window, as well as training in customs valuation. These must be accompanied by a robust capacity to analyse the country's customs data collection procedures, regulation procedures, HS coding, tariff schedules and corresponding agreement that were ratified and should be implemented and whose implementation should be regularly monitored.

Simplified trade regimes development have also proven themselves to be quite functional in ACP countries and often serve to support trade development among vulnerable groups such as women and youth entrepreneurs.

TradeComII has also focused its assistance on strengthening trade facilitation efficiency overall and specifically, for remote or insular economies, analyzing and strengthening air connectivity and harbor facilities such as for shipping and cruises are a necessity for ACP countries whose trade and economy are largely open and depend on maritime and air transport.

STRENGTHENING PRIVATE SECTOR COMPETITIVENESS

Supporting the private sector in ACP countries, which is the engine of economic growth, has also been a focal area for TradeComII support, with specific focus on MSMEs and SMEs.

Boosting private sector competitiveness must be a pillar and objective of technical assistance and capacity building efforts as SMEs and MSMEs represent 90% of ACP export capacity. That includes all efforts to unlock their trade potential along the value chain, assisting them to climb the value chain through value addition and ensuring quality throughout production and manufacturing processes.

Strengthening export competitiveness has been a pillar of support to the private sector and has brought many positive results in the field, as it combines quality management, the development of business centres, allowed for SME coaching on business development and marketing, and the development of business canvas model technologies. Some assistance provided focused on researching and presenting export trends and opportunities for the private sector, awareness building for cross-border business communities and the development of good practice value chain compliance systems for exports to the EU: market access, how to export, compliance requirements for manufacturing, horticulture and aquaculture (Kenya, Zimbabwe).

Linking private sector companies to each other and making business information available for access by international exporters have also proven to be a useful tool, as in the cases of the development of a compendium of Trade, Business and investment laws and the preparation of business directories. A number of studies have been prepared for ACP countries including studies on the impact of subsidizing of fisheries.

Guidelines have also proven to be a tool of great worth as they speak to the specificity of a need and provide direct responses to deal with that need. Specific cases include the development of guidelines to regularize the marketing system and export of gold and gemstones.

TradeCom II has made the inclusion of women and youth one of its verifiable objectives and can boast of the increase of gender-sensitive indicators in its analysis of the impact of the support it provides to support the trading capacity of vulnerable groups in ACP countries. Special attention has been placed on women-led and youth-led enterprises that require focused and deliberate support to harness the challenges and opportunities presented to the private sector as they seek increased competitiveness both nationally and beyond their borders. Technical assistance provided under this objective therefore empowered women and youth in their role in promoting cross-border and international trade.

Sectoral strategies were also developed with a keen interest to reflect the needs of the beneficiaries on the ground and to adapt the strategies to their capacities while seeking to increase their export capacities. This includes work done on the improvement of ecommerce environment for the business sector.

ENHANCING ACP ABILITY TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF MARKET ACCESS OPPORTUNITIES

Market access is often a challenge for ACP countries as entry into another country's market hardly depends only on the exporting country. There are a number of hurdles to be able to sell goods and services into another market, including legal, technical, tariff and non-tariff related. Though an ACP country cannot control the bottlenecks on the other side, they require at least information as to what the requirements are and the support or capacity to respond to these requirements, mainly at the private sector or economic operators (exporter) level but also from a policy and legal perspective.

Market access also implies the ability of ACP countries to open their markets based on intelligent policy and to provide access to other exporters from other countries desirous of selling their products (goods or services), while supporting, or not impeding local importers from acquiring these products for sale/consumption in-country. Quality is therefore key to accessing foreign markets and also to protect a country from sub-standard products. This requires updating national and regional standards (including through quality infrastructure and regulations) and solid knowledge of relevant international standards, such as ensuring compliance with multilateral (WTO) and regional (EPA) standards.

Therefore, the varied assistance with export development to regional and the EU markets go hand in hand with the support provided to eliminate NTBs through reviews of regulation and strengthening and adaptation of the related legal frameworks. Support was also provided to apprehend what rules of origin are and how they work, while assisting to understand their importance in regional and multilateral trading agreements that the ACP countries are party to.

Technical assistance also included information gathering on market access opportunities (guide development) of interest to ACP countries.

CONCLUSION

The challenges are still robust when one considers that ACP countries represented only 2% of world trade in 2018 and about 5% of UE imports and exports. However, this must be read in the light of fact that ACP involvement in global trade has increased over the last five years, from 1.9% in 2015. However, one can consider that once the foundations that are required for building strengthened bases for trade development are in place, then ACP countries will be prepared to pursue trade opportunities and face challenges without being forced to take giant economic leaps backwards. TradeComII Programme has therefore been a useful tool to buttress the foundations of ACP economies and to assist them to trade, allowing for their increased dynamic engagement in the global economy

ZIMBABWE

TARGETED SUPPORT FOR STRENGTHENING THE CAPACITY AND COMPETITIVENESS OF SMALL-SCALE HORTICULTURE FARMERS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF NICHE EXPORT PRODUCTS UNDER THE EPA IN ZIMBABWE

The ACP - EU Tradecom II Programme jointly with ZimTrade is currently implementing a project entitled ‘ Targeted support for strengthening the capacity and competitiveness of small - scale horticulture farmers for production of niche exports products under the Economic partnership Agreements between Zimbabwe and the European Union. The objective of the project is to enhance export competitiveness of Zimbabwe’s niche horticultural products into regional and EU markets.



The training workshop was facilitated and the team of technical experts contracted by the ACP-EU TradeCom Programme and comprising of Dr Moses Tekere (Senior Research Fellow-Agricultural Trade Expert and Team Leader), Dr Richard Kamidza (Trade Policy Specialist) and Mr David Parsons (Product Quality-SPS/TBT Expert) and William Zirebwa (Non-Key Expert).

As part of this project, a Capacity building and peer review workshop on ‘stakeholder led ‘good practice’ for seven horticultural value chains for export markets’ was held at Mutare Catholic University Training Centre, from 16-20 September 2019. The specific aim of the training/peer-review workshop was to build capacity of horticulture value chain operators on market access and value chain compliance requirements, ownership and transparency of the value chain compliance and ultimately elaborate a stakeholder-led and “good practice” value chain compliance system for sectors as floriculture, sweet potatoes, paprika, bananas, pineapples, avocados and macadamia. The three-day training workshop was followed by a two-day Peer Review of the Baseline Study on the seven value chains undertaken earlier.

The training peer review covered a number thematic areas, such as Performance and Export opportunities of Zimbabwe’s horticulture sector under the iEPA, Sanitary Measures, specific compliance and competitiveness challenges in each of the 7 value chains, recommendations and quality management improvements in selected horticulture export products for regional EU and International markets and designing a stakeholder led electronic value chain compliance system.

In attendance were farmers and managers of the 7 value chains and officials from Zimtrade, Plant Quarantine Services (PQS) Department, and the Agricultural Marketing Authority (AMA) (Ministry of Lands, Agriculture, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement), Government Analytical Laboratory Services (GALS) and the Standards Association of Zimbabwe (SAZ).

The priority recommendations from group discussion for each Value Chain included investment in human resources, improving Finance Management and investments in irrigation systems and infrastructural development, creating awareness and working towards compliance on internationally recognised standards, being part of the ongoing farming organisation and supporting related trainings, networks and relationships with the key target markets.





CROSQ, ARSO AND PIFS

TARGETED ASSISTANCE TO STRENGTHEN REGIONAL TRADE-RELATED QUALITY INFRASTRUCTURE THROUGH INTRA ACP PARTNERSHIPS

The TCII Programme is promoting, through the programme “Targeted assistance to strengthen regional trade-related quality infrastructure through intra ACP partnerships – CROS (CARICOM Regional Organisation for Standards and Quality), ARSO (African Organisation for Standardisation) and PIFS (Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat)”, intra-regional quality infrastructure agreements in support of market access and supporting the development of an optimized quality infrastructure in the Pacific region for enhanced trade competitiveness.

As part of this programme, a 5-days Pacific Quality Infrastructure Initiative Regional Workshop was held in Nadi – Fiji, from 02 to 06 September 2019.



South-South sharing of good practices played an important role at the workshop thanks to the partnership established between the PIFS and CROSQ, one of the implementing partners of the programme. The Fiji’s Department of National Trade Measurement & Standards (DMTS), the Papua New Guinea’s (PNG’s) National Institute of Standards and Industrial Technology (NISIT) and the Vanuatu Bureaus of Standards (VBS) were also invited to share their experiences to the benefit of other Forum Island Countries”.

During the first two days of the workshop the Team Leader Mr. Lorens Sibbesen, provided the elements of Quality Infrastructure and the many aspects (including a number of challenges) of how elements of a QI can be implemented in the Pacific.





Furthermore, he underscored that a fully-fledged QI system provides value chain participants' confidence in tradeable products. Establishing and maintaining QI systems requires both financial and human resources, political support, creating a quality culture, and localization of QI systems to the unique needs of countries and regions. For example, whilst in developed countries conformity assessment functions are mostly undertaken by the private sector, in developing countries the public still play an important role in the assessment of conformity.

The workshop discussed in detail the five components of QI, namely: Policy, Legal and Regulatory Framework; Standards; Metrology; Accreditation; Conformity Assessment; and Quality Promotion and brought together over 80 participants, including government officials and private sector representatives from Forum Island Countries (FIC), international, regional, and national organizations playing a leading role on QI, and donor partners.

The "break-out sessions" (under session XIII in the program) gave a good opportunity for the participants to discuss the thoughts and learnings from the first two days' introduction to the elements of QI and the challenges related to implementing these elements in a diverse region as the Pacific region. During the presentations of the summaries from the various groups and the following discussion in plenary, it became clear, that although the countries in the Pacific have established a regional organization as the PIFS, the 16 different countries in the region have very different needs and face different challenges.

One of the repeatedly highlighted challenges to overcome is the lack of awareness in relation to quality and QI. This is not only the case out in the rural areas among the small MSMEs but also on the political level among government members and regulators, who will be responsible for taking the initiative on formulating the quality policy for their country. The inputs from CROSQ both in relation to setting up a regional metrology structure, and in relation to aiming at creating a quality culture very much contributed to the debate on this important issue. Mr. Deryck Omar, CROSQ, underlined the importance of including "Quality Promotion" as an integrated pillar in a Quality Infrastructure (along with Standards, Metrology, Conformity Assessment and Accreditation). This would lead to a better understanding of quality and eventually an integrated Quality Culture in the society as an important basis for a well-functioning Quality Infrastructure.

Another major challenge in developing countries like in the Pacific region, is the fact that all the countries face major challenges in relation to having the optimum resources (both economy, physical infrastructure and knowledge) to effectively establish the various elements of a well-functioning QI. Cooperation and sharing of capacities between the countries in the region could seem on a number of areas obvious and this approach can possibly help meet the physical challenge of long distances between the countries and poor regional transportation infrastructure.

The value of south-south exchange of good practices was strongly confirmed during these 5 days and attendants were enthusiastic to well understand the meaning of a quality infrastructure and the potential impact of implementing some of the QI elements in the various countries in the region.



SEYCHELLES

STRENGTHENING CAPACITY TO IMPROVE TRADE-RELATED SPS CONFORMITY AND CAPACITY BUILDING FOR COMPETITIVE FISHERIES EXPORT IN SEYCHELLES

This programme it is being implemented under the fourth Pillar of the Programme: Market access and Standards.

The economy of Seychelles relies mostly on tourism and exports of tuna, and fish in general. For this reason, mariculture is considered as priority by Seychelles Fishery Authority (SFA) and will have an important role to play in the coming years to generate growth in the fisheries sector and also as an active contributor to the Blue Economy initiative.





This TradeCom II initiative is being implemented under the third Pillar of the Programme: Trade Facilitation and strengthening competitiveness with the aim to:

- provide targeted support for quality development and export competitiveness in the Seychelles fisheries sector
- strengthen the capacity to understand and meet the requirements of main fish markets importation standards.
- build Institutional and management capacity of senior officials to meet SPS compliance obligations under the WTO Agreement and international standards.

The second training workshop covered fish-handling and the participants were Sri Lankan fishing crews of the Semi-industrial tuna fleet as well as members of the Marine Training Academy. The purpose of this training workshop was to inform selected Sri Lankan crew members on tuna butchering techniques. The TAT worked with fish buyers from the private sector, in order to establish a standard tuna butchering technique.



The TAT also conducted a training workshop on export readiness to a group of senior officials from the Enterprise Seychelles Agency. This organisation's main functions are to enhance the competitiveness of local SMEs, promote a conducive business environment and empower SME's to emerge and grow. The agenda for the training workshop included topics such as import and export requirements on products of plant origin as well as an introduction to the WTO-SPS and TBT Agreements.

During September 2019, three training workshops have been delivered. The first training workshop was on export competitiveness and was delivered to members of the Ministry of Trade, the Seychelles Fishing Authority and representatives of the Seychelles Revenue Authority. This training covered how fisheries and the fishing sector as a whole could utilise technology to become more competitive. The training workshop included a presentation on blockchain and how it is currently being used in the fisheries sector, as well as discussions on the current state of fisheries mobile applications and how their adoption could be used to enhance market competitiveness in the sector.



COMORES

ACCESSION DES COMORES À L'OMC ET MISE EN ŒUVRE DE L'APE REGIONAL

Dans le cadre du projet « Accession des Comores à l'OMC et mise en œuvre de l'APE régional », qui a comme objectifs la mise en conformité du droit et de la pratique des Comores aux engagements commerciaux résultant de l'accèsion à l'OMC et l'élaboration de mesures d'insertion des dispositions de l'APE régional dans le droit et la pratique des Comores, un atelier national de formation sur les négociations commerciales a été organisé du 2 au 4 octobre 2019 à l'hôtel Retaj à Moroni.

Organisé sur trois jours, l'atelier a réuni une vingtaine de hauts fonctionnaires de différents ministères comoriens et des représentants du secteur privé et de la société civile.

Les objectifs de l'atelier étaient notamment :

- Dresser un état des lieux du processus d'accèsion des Comores à l'OMC afin d'informer toutes les parties prenantes ;
- Faciliter les dernières étapes du processus d'accèsion des Comores à l'OMC ;
- Former les acteurs comoriens sur les éléments de la politique et des négociations commerciales ;
- Montrer les avantages que les Comores, eu égard à leur statut de PMA, pourraient tirer de l'OMC ;
- Présenter les défis qui pourraient être attendus de l'accèsion ;
- Identifier et présenter les implications de l'accèsion pour le commerce des marchandises ;
- Identifier et présenter les implications pour le commerce des services.

Les présentations, données par les experts du Programme TradeComII et du Ministère du Commerce, avaient pour but de fournir aux participants une vue d'ensemble de l'organisation, du fonctionnement et des missions de l'OMC, des accords préférentiels bilatéraux et régionaux (notamment l'Accord de Partenariat Économique (APE) et de la Zone de Libre-Échange Continentale Africaine (ZLECA), de l'élaboration et la mise en œuvre de la politique commerciale, en se concentrant sur les éléments fondamentaux qui devraient permettre aux autorités en charge de la politique commerciale d'avoir les instruments théoriques et méthodologiques pour concevoir, mettre en œuvre et évaluer une politique commerciale ouverte, inclusive et participative.

Les participants ont reconnu les efforts consentis par l'Union des Comores depuis le lancement du processus de négociations pour l'accèsion à l'OMC. D'importantes avancées ont été notées aussi bien sur le plan législatif que réglementaire pour répondre aux questions et préoccupations des Membres et mettre les lois nationales en conformité avec les dispositions de l'OMC. Ces résultats ont été obtenus grâce à la mobilisation efficace de l'expertise nationale disponible et un recours habile à l'expertise externe, à travers le Programme TradeCom II.

Les participants ont reconnu la nécessité de consolider les acquis obtenus et de les renforcer dans la perspective de l'accèsion des Comores à l'OMC et de la phase post-accession.

Glossary

ACP	Africa Caribbean and Pacific
CARIFORUM	Caribbean Forum
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
CTA	Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation
DG DEVCO	Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development
EAC	East African Community
ECOWAS	Economic Community of West African States
EDD	European Development Days
EPA	Economic Partnership Agreement
EU	European Union
FTA	Free Trade Area
ITC	International Trade Centre
LDC	Least Developed Countries
NAMA	Non-Agricultural Market Access
NTB	Non-Tariff barriers
NTPF	National Trade Policy Framework
OECS	Organisation of Eastern Caribbean States
OIF	Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie
PACPs	Pacific ACP States
PIFs	Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat
PMU	Programme Management Unit
RCEP	Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership
RTA	Regional Trade Agreement
SADC	Southern African Development Community
SDG	Sustainable development goals
SME	Small and Medium Enterprises
SPS	Sanitary and Phytosanitary

TBT	Technical Barriers to Trade
TFTA	Tripartite Free Trade Area
TRA	Trade-Related Assistance
TRIPS	Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights
TPP	Trans-Pacific Partnership
TPF	Trade Policy Framework
TTIP	Trans-Atlantic Trade and Investment Partnership
UNCTAD	United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
UNECA	United Nations Economic Commission for Africa
WAEMU	West African Economic and Monetary Union
WCO	World Customs Organisation
WTO	World Trade Organisation




 BUILDING ACP TRADE CAPACITY
 RENFORCER LES CAPACITÉS COMMERCIALES DES ACP

Avenue de Tervuren 36, box 35
 1040 Brussels - Belgium

☎ 0032 (0)2 739 00 60
 ✉ contact@tradecom-acpeu.org
 🌐 www.tradecom-acpeu.org

follow us on twitter:
 @Tradecom_2
 @Tender_Tradecom